

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 QUITO 06632 081425Z

41

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 /017 W

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R 081315Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7104

UNCLAS QUITO 6632

FOR: MARIE BURKE, SCS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS (JUDGE, JAMES)

SUBJECT: CASE OF JAMES JUDGE

FOLLOWING IS COMPLETE TEXT LESS COMPLIMENTARY CLOSING OF  
EMBASSY NOTE NO. 34, 25 JUNE 1975.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS  
COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF ECUADOR AND HAS THE HONOR TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE  
MINISTRY A MATTER CONCERNING AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, MR. JAMES JUDGE,  
WHO IS A RESIDENT OF QUITO.

IT IS THE EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT ON JANUARY 19, 1969, WHILE  
ON AN ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION ON LA TOLITA ISLAND NEAR ESMERAL-  
DAS, MR. JUDGE DISCOVERED A PRE-COLUMBIAN GOLD MASK AND OTHER  
ARCHEOLOGICAL OBJECTS WHICH HE DIRECTED BE DEPOSITED WITH THE  
BANCO CENTRAL AS REQUIRED BY ECUADOREAN LAW. SINCE THAT TIME  
MR. JUDGE HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN A LEGAL DISPUTE WITH THE BANCO  
CENTRAL, WHICH HAS DECLINED TO RECOGNIZE HIS OWNERSHIP OF THOSE  
OBJECTS. MR. JUDGE HAD BEEN PROCEEDING THROUGH ECUADOREAN  
GOVERNMENTAL CHANNELS AND THE ECUADOREAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM IN AN ATTEMPT  
TO ESTABLISH HIS OWNERSHIP OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL PIECES. HOWEVER,  
THE MAY 6 REGISTRO OFICIAL NO. 796 PUBLISHED DECREE NO. 320 WHICH  
DECLARED THESE OBJECTS TO BE PROPERTY OF THE CASA DE LA CULTURA  
AND APPARENTLY DENIED MR. JUDGE ANY FURTHER JUDICIAL REMEDY. THE  
EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE MINISTRY'S PROVIDING A REPORT CONCERNING  
THE FACTS OF THIS CASE. IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL TO KNOW WHAT FURTHER  
REMEDIES ARE AVAILABLE TO MR. JUDGE IN WHAT MAY BE A CASE OF  
CONFISCATION OF HIS PROPERTY.

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BREWSTER

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## Message Attributes

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